

(f) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken for its revival ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, as there were two Divisions of the Central Water Commission functioning at Bhubaneswar in Orissa, one of the Division, namely, Brahmani-Subarnarekha Division has been converted into a Monitoring and Appraisal Unit under the regionalisation programme of Central Water Commission. This Unit will monitor the major and medium irrigation projects in the State.

(c) and (d) Some representations have been received against the conversion of the Division into a Monitoring and Appraisal Unit. But the Government are of the opinion that since this has been done without any reduction in the activities of the Central Water Commission or retrenchment of the existing staff the present arrangement is more appropriate for efficient functioning of the Central Water Commission in the State.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. In the light of the replies to parts (c) and (d) above, it has been decided to continue the existing arrangement.

[Translation]

#### National Award to Teachers

279. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the norms and procedure prescribed to select primary and higher secondary teachers for President's National awards;

(b) whether reports of large scale manipulation and charges have been received in respect of the list of the teachers selected and recommended as per the prescribed norms;

(c) if so, the details thereof, Statewise and Place-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent manipulations in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

#### Statement

Norms and Procedure prescribed to select primary and higher secondary teachers for National Award:

- Classroom teachers with atleast 15 years teaching experience and headmasters with 20 years of experience and who are actually working as teachers/headmasters in recognised primary/middle/high/higher secondary schools only shall be considered. Teachers who are teaching upto class VIII should be considered in the category of Primary School Teachers and those teaching classes IX—XII in the category of Secondary School Teachers.
- Normally retired teachers are not eligible for the award but those teachers who have served a part of the calendar year (atleast for four months) may be considered if they fulfil all other conditions.
- Teachers whose names were recommended last year or before can be considered again if they are still otherwise eligible and are recommended by the State Government/Union Territory Administration.
- Teachers from the recognised institutions for the physically and mentally handicapped are also eligible for the awards, provided they fulfil all other prescribed conditions.
- Educational administrators (Inspectors of Education etc.) and the staff of training colleges are not eligible for these awards.

In addition to the above, the main considerations which should guide the selection of teachers are :

- Teacher's reputation in the local community.
- His/her academic efficiency and desire for its improvement.
- His/her genuine interest in and love for children.
- His/her involvement in the social life of the community.

[English]

#### Hydrological Studies in Karnataka

280. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested to include Karnataka also in the project to conduct hydrological studies in the peninsular states under a programme of the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details including the expenditure being incurred under this IDA assisted project ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) In the World Bank assisted multi-state Hydrology Project launched on 22nd September, 1995, Karnataka joined on 22nd July, 1996 with International Development Association (IDA) assistance of Rs. 26.728 crores for Karnataka. The project is ending on 31.3.2001. Under the Project, the State Government inter-alia proposes to improve existing hydrological data collection systems, reservoir management, real-time water resources management and Institutional strengthening. Since credit effectiveness began from 10th December, 1996, the physical and financial progress of the project has just started in the State.

#### **Purchase of Arms by Pakistan**

281. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has recently purchased Main Battle Tank (MBT) from Ukraine, nuclear arms from China and other arms and ammunition from several other countries;

(b) if so, whether any protest have been lodged by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the further reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Government are aware of Pakistan's effort to acquire sophisticated weapons from various sources including, inter alia, T-80 UD tanks from Ukraine and its close collaboration with China in the nuclear field.

(b) Government have taken up the issue of Pakistan's clandestine weapon oriented nuclear programme and its acquisition of weapons beyond its legitimate defence requirements with the concerned countries.

(c) Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on national security and take necessary steps to safeguard it.

#### **Expulsion of Indian Diplomat**

282. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Indian High Commission staffer expelled by any of the country during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for which they have been expelled;

(c) whether the Government have protested about such expulsions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d) The Government of Pakistan has, during the last three years, declared the following six Indian

diplomatic and non-diplomatic India-based officials posted in the Indian High Commission in Pakistan, as persona-non-grata, under the false allegation that they were indulging in activities incompatible with their diplomatic/official status :

- (i) V.S. Chauhan, Attache, HCI Islamabad (12/7/1994)
- (ii) E.A. Adams, staff member, CGI Karachi (13/7/1994)
- (iii) J.J. Singh, Consul, CGI Karachi (30/8/1994)
- (iv) Deepak Thakur, staff member, HCI Islamabad (26/12/1994)
- (v) A.C. Sinha, staff member, HCI Islamabad (1/10/1996)
- (vi) A.K. Wahi, staff member, HCI Islamabad (26/10/1996)

2. Government of India has, in all those cases of expulsion of our personnel from Pakistan, categorically rejected the Pakistani allegations. Government have conveyed to Pakistan that its actions in this regard are totally unacceptable and that use of violence by Pakistani intelligence operatives against Indian Mission personnel based in Pakistan is a matter of deep regret and serious concern. Government have also demanded that Government of Pakistan take all necessary steps for the safety and security of our personnel in Pakistan.

3. The US authorities have recently requested withdrawal of two Indian diplomats stationed in the United States alleging activities incompatible with their Consular status. In a statement issued on 17 February, the Government of India have expressed deep regret at this decision. The individuals concerned were discharging their normal responsibilities as Consular officers. Government of India has categorically rejected any implication to the contrary.

[Translation]

#### **Ahmedabad-Baroda Express Highway**

283. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether possibilities have been explored to complete the work of Ahmedabad-Baroda Express Highway;

(b) if so, the details of such possibilities and those which have been accepted; and

(c) the efforts made to complete the work on the basis of the aforesaid feasibility report ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government is contemplating to involve the Private Sector in the completion of the balance works for the Ahmedabad-Vadodra Expressway project in the Gujarat State on Build-Operate-Transfer basis. Tenders for the same have been invited.